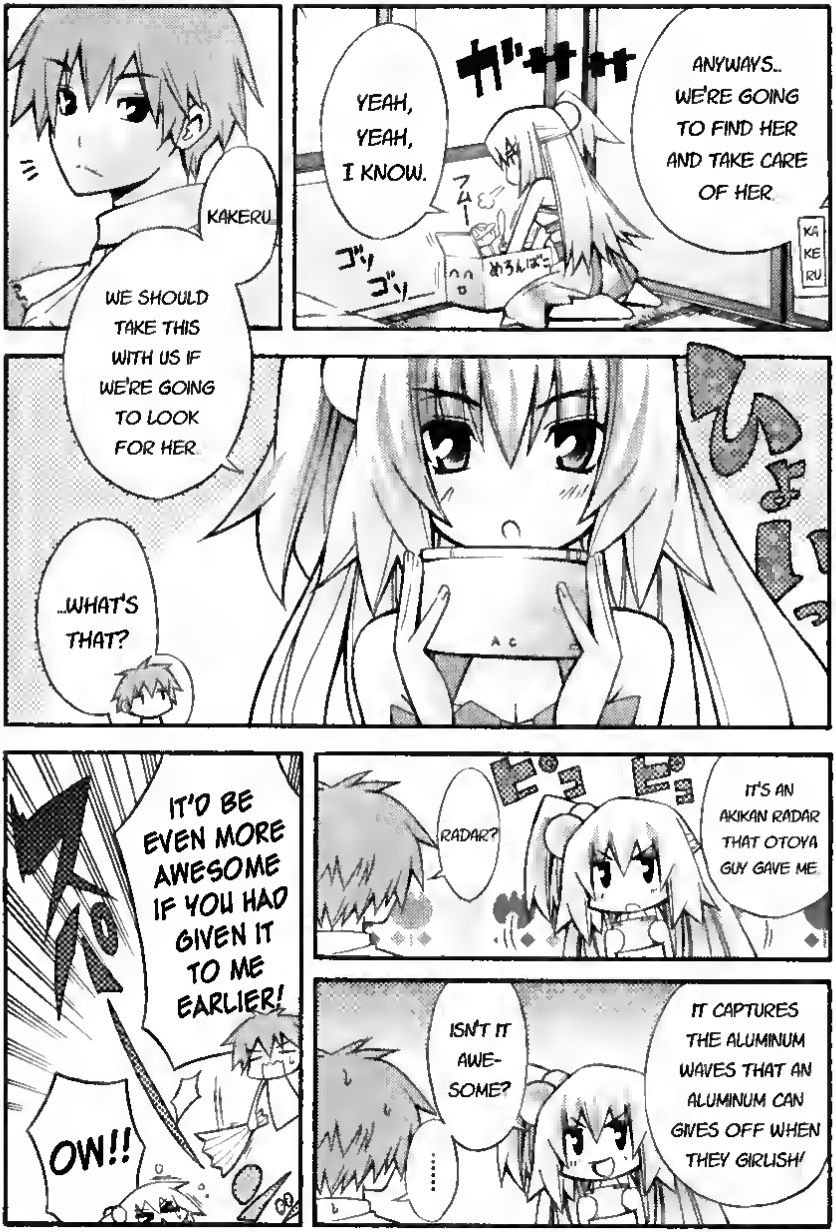
CHAPTER 6: A DECISIVE MOMENT

IS THIS... THE ALUMINUM CAN YOU MET?
...SO?
I'LL CUT YOU
W..WELL, AT LEAST WE HAVE SOME-THING..
H... "HOW TO DRAW MANGA" ?!
I SPENT ALL NIGHT DRAWING THAT PICTURE! I THINK IT LOOKS JUST LIKE HER!
RIGHT?!


KAKERU
WE SHOULD TAKE THIS WITH US IF WE'RE GOING TO LOOK FOR HER.
...WHAT'S THAT?
YEAH, YEAH, I KNOW.
ANYWAYS... WE'RE GOING TO FIND HER AND TAKE CARE OF HER.
KA KE RU
IT'D BE EVEN MORE AWESOME IF YOU HAD GIVEN IT TO ME EARLIER!
OW!!
RADAR?
IT'S AN AKIKAN RADAR THAT OTOYA GUY GAVE ME.
ISN'T IT AWE-SOME?
IT CAPTURES THE ALUMINUM WAVES THAT AN ALUMINUM CAN GIVES OFF WHEN THEY GIRLISH!

HELLO?
ガチャ
ピンポーン
……
WHO IS IT?
WHO COULD IT BE THAT PRESSED THE INTERCOM BUTTON AND STIRRED A PASSION IN MY PANTS?
ho ho ho
MORNING, KAKERU-CHAN!
NANI MI?! ぎょ
GBGWAA?!

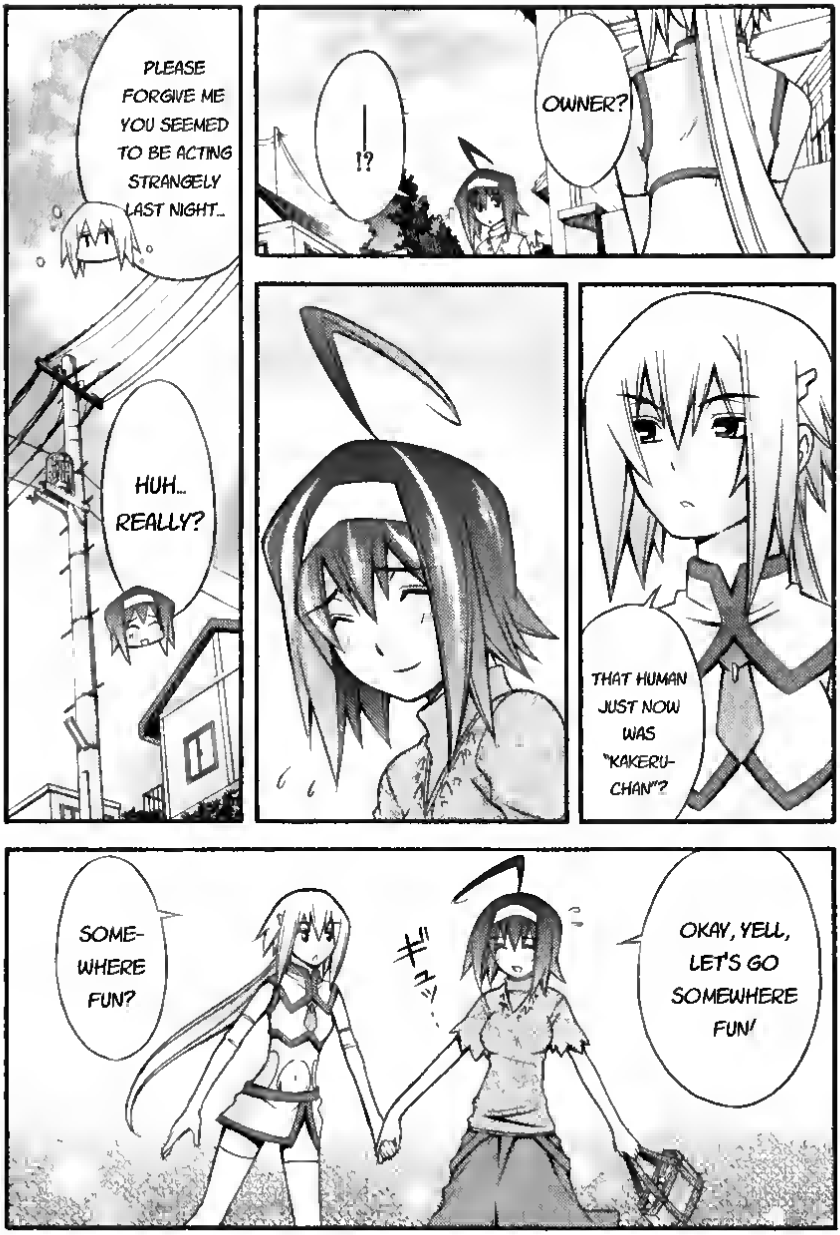
UMM...
WELL, YOU SEE,
モジ
モジ
W... WH-WH-WHY ARE YOU HERE?!
EHEHE!
N...NICE ONE, MELON!
...
MELON
ミ
...WHAT PROM-ISE?
KAKERU-CHAN, DO YOU REMEMBER WHAT YOU PROMISED ME?

KAKERU-CHAN,
TODAY WE'RE GOING ON A DATE. ♪
……

A... A DATE?
YEAH!
AH...
SORRY, NAJIMI...
...OKAY
I GUESS IT CAN'T BE HELPED.
AND, UH... I'M GONNA BE TAKING A LITTLE VACATION SOON, TOO!
THERE'S SOMETHING I'VE GOT TO TAKE CARE OF TODAY!

...WILL GO HOME.
THEN NAJIMI...
NAJIMI?
ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS, KAKERU?
...!
AND...
AND I DON'T WANT NAJIMI GETTING CAUGHT UP IN ALL OF THIS.
YEAH. I DON'T KNOW WHEN WE'LL GET ATTACKED.

BUT NAJIMI HAS SOME PAINFUL MEMORIES OF PEOPLE CLOSE TO HER GETTING HURT...
YOU CAN'T TELL BY LOOKING AT HER,


PLEASE FORGIVE ME YOU SEEMED TO BE ACTING STRANGELY LAST NIGHT...
HUH... REALLY?
!?
OWNER?
THAT HUMAN JUST NOW WAS "KAKERU-CHAN"?
SOME-WHERE FUN?
ギュッ
OKAY, YELL, LET'S GO SOMEWHERE FUN!

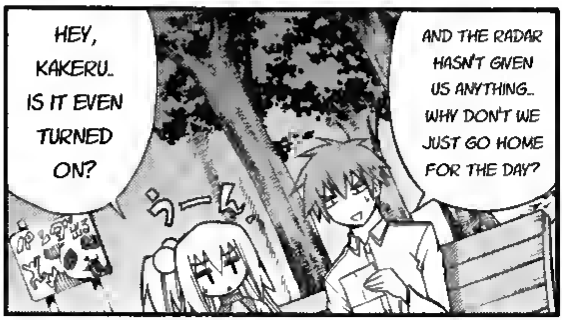
I MADE BOXED LUNCHES!
BUT OWNER, I CAN'T INGEST ANYTHING OTHER THAN A SPORTS DRINK.
.....
.....
ALRIGHT. OWNER
I'LL ACCOM-PANY YOU

菓子風子堂
3Fコーナー

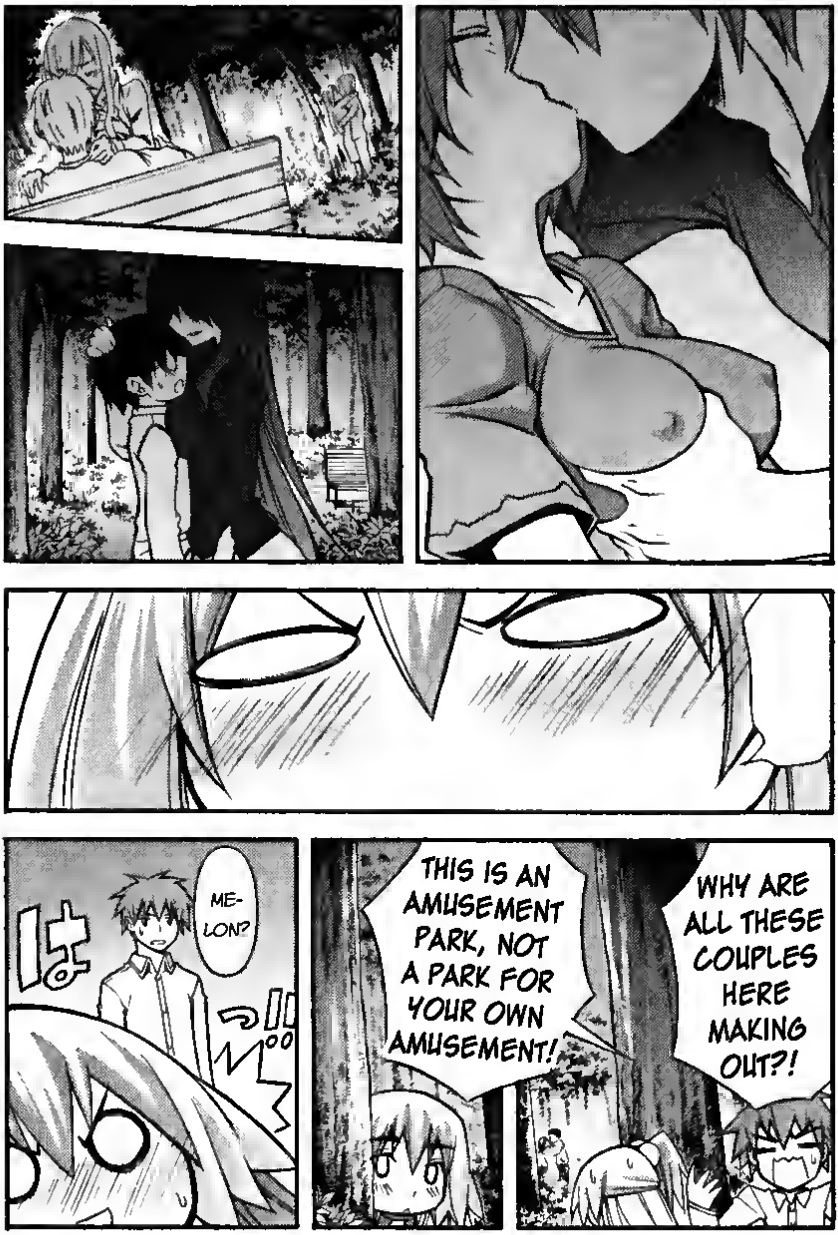
キャベツ
¥100～
大安売り!!
メロン

HEH...
WE'RE NOT GONNA BE ABLE TO IDENTIFY HER WITH THIS..
.....

ピー
YEAH.. IT'S ON, BUT..
BUT...?


HEY, KAKERU.. IS IT EVEN TURNED ON?
うーん
AND THE RADAR HASN'T GIVEN US ANYTHING.. WHY DON'T WE JUST GO HOME FOR THE DAY?

WH-
WHAT?!
ドン
WOOOAH!!
INSTEAD OF US TRYING TO FIND THEM, WHY DON'T WE MAKE THEM FIND US?
WHAT ABOUT THIS, MELON?!
I'M A GENIUS, AREN'T I?
AH!


ME-LON?
THIS IS AN AMUSEMENT PARK, NOT A PARK FOR YOUR OWN AMUSEMENT!
WHY ARE ALL THESE COUPLES HERE MAKING OUT?!

.....
.....
WH-WHAT?
DO YOU GET TURNED ON FROM WATCHING THEM OR SOMETHING.
!?
WH-WHAT?! OF COURSE NOT!!
.....
WH-WHAT?
I-
I KNEW THAT!
IF YOU'RE NOT A CAN, I CAN'T GIRLISH YOU, RIGHT?

I-I'M NOT NERVOUS!
WHAT ARE YOU SO NERVOUS FOR?
...
HEY, YELL, LET'S GO ON THAT ONE NEXT!
OWN-ER..
P-PLEASE WAIT FOR A MOMENT..
WAIT, YELL.. DO YOU NOT LIKE FAST RIDES?
..NO, I DON'T BELIEVE IT'S THAT..

SO YOU AREN'T GOOD WITH THEM... I'M SORRY
BUT... I HAVE THE FEELING THAT SOMETHING IS ABOUT TO COME OUT OF MY BODY...
I'LL GO BUY US SOME DRINKS!
OWN-ER?
LET'S TAKE A BREAK, THEN.
OWN-ER...

SHE'S SO KIND...
.....

HER HAND WAS SO WARM.
THE AKIKAN RADAR IS GOING OFF!!
ピコピッポ
....?!
ポーン?
OH, NO.. I'M LOST..
キョロ
キョロ
I THOUGHT I'D TAKE A SHORTCUT THROUGH THE TREES, BUT.. WHAT SHOULD I DO NOW?
ｶﾞｻｶﾞｻ..

WH...
WHAT WAS THAT LIGHT..?
GWAH!!
..HUH?
WHAT IS HE..
IS THAT KAKERU-CHAN..?

……

OW-
NER?
た た た
OWNER! I HAVE ARRIVED!
OW-
NER!!
WAIT, HOLD ON, WHY IS NAJIMI HERE?
AND BY "OWNER", DO YOU MEAN...
PLEASE, SPEAK TO ME, OWNER!
OWNER! WHAT'S THE MATTER?!

I JUST... I GOT SOME DUST IN MY EYES...
I...IT'S NOTHING, YELL...
OWNER...
NO WAY...
YOU...

LOOK OUT, MELON!
GWAH!
KA-KERU!

HEY, YOU! THAT ATTACK WAS A LITTLE UNFAIR, DON'T YOU THINK?!
TH...
THAT WAS WAY TOO CLOSE.
IT'S YOU...?!
STOP!
YELL...!!
YOU MADE MY OWNER CRY...
YOU MADE...

akikan! chapter 6

...one more to go!

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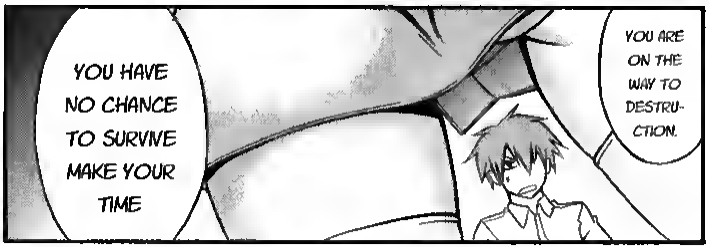

YOU...!
WH...
IT WAS... DEEPER... THAN I THOUGHT...?
YELL!
YOU DESERVE
TO DIE.